



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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NEWS RELEASE

Gerardo Avila-Canela, a/k/a “Edgardo Melendez-Figueroa,” a/k/a “Edgardo Melendez,” was charged today by indictment¹ with making a false statement in a passport application and making a false claim of United States citizenship, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR YEAR OF BIRTH
Gerardo Avila-Canela	Norristown, PA	34 years old

If convicted the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 13 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment.

The case was investigated by Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) and is being prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Pamela D. Ransome.

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[HTTP://www.justice.gov/usao/pae](http://www.justice.gov/usao/pae)

¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.